



# iTunes FAQ

Just as iMovie revolutionized the way people make home movies, Apple's new iTunes music software takes the confusion out of managing your personal music collection. iTunes turns your Mac into a powerful digital jukebox, complete with easy-to-use tools for recording music from audio CDs, searching and browsing your entire collection, managing playlists, downloading songs to MP3 players, listening to Internet radio stations, and even burning your own custom CDs. Best of all, iTunes is available as a free software download at [www.apple.com/itunes](http://www.apple.com/itunes).

## iTunes Background

### **Q. What is MP3?**

**A.** MP3 is short for Moving Picture Experts Group Audio Layer 3. It's a compression format that shrinks audio files with little sacrifice in sound quality. The files can be compressed at different rates, but the less they are compressed, the better they sound. The default compression setting for iTunes is 160 Kbps, which yields extremely high-fidelity music but is still compact enough to fit many songs onto most portable MP3 players. You can adjust the compression setting as desired.

### **Q. What is Internet radio? What is Kerbango?**

**A.** Internet radio refers to radio stations that make their programming available via streaming audio access on the Net. Kerbango is an Internet radio tuner that consolidates these audio streams from hundreds of sources across the Internet and makes them available online.

### **Q. What is CDDB?**

**A.** CDDB is a web-based database with detailed information on all kinds of music recordings. When you insert your music CD into your Mac, iTunes goes on the Internet, accesses the CDDB service, and gathers details about the artist, album, track list, and more. If your CD is not found in the CDDB database, you have the option to submit information about it yourself so that other users with the same CD can retrieve it automatically. To ensure that you get the most complete information available, iTunes also supports the newer CDDB<sup>2</sup> version of this database. To learn more about CDDB, visit [www.cddb.com](http://www.cddb.com).

### **Q. Should I use the AppleCD Audio Player application to play CDs?**

**A.** Since iTunes gives you all the functionality of AppleCD Audio Player and then some, you will no longer need to use the AppleCD Audio Player.



## iTunes and MP3 Music File Management

**Q. Can I import MP3 files from other music management programs?**

**A.** You can take the contents of playlists you've created in an application like SoundJam and easily drag them into a new playlist you've created in iTunes.

**Q. Can I add the audio MP3 files iTunes creates to my movies?**

**A.** Yes. iMovie imports audio in MP3 format (in addition to several other audio formats).

## Burning Custom CDs with an Internal CD-RW Drive

**Q. Which Apple computers come with CD-RW drives?**

**A.** The new Power Mac G4 computers introduced in January 2001 include CD-RW drives. For a complete list of Apple computers with CD-RW drives, please check Apple's hardware products website at [www.apple.com/hardware](http://www.apple.com/hardware).

**Q. Does iTunes work with all CD-R media?**

**A.** iTunes works with all CD-R media that is qualified to work with the CD-RW drive that comes with your Mac. For a list of qualified CD-R media, please see the iTunes website at [www.apple.com/itunes](http://www.apple.com/itunes).

**Q. Can I burn data CDs with iTunes?**

**A.** No. iTunes is a music application that lets you burn music CDs that you can play in most standard CD players and is not a data management application. While you can fit many more songs in MP3 format on a CD (approximately 100 five-minute songs), data CDs will not play on most standard CD players. To burn data CDs, you will need to use Disc Burner software from Apple or Adaptec Toast.

**Q. What is the difference between CD-R and CD-RW, and which one should I use to create audio CDs?**

**A.** CD-R is short for CD-recordable and CD-RW is short for CD-rewritable. CD-R discs are write-once, read-multiple media that work just like standard CDs. CD-RW discs can be erased and reused. CD-R discs are not reusable but cost only about half as much as CD-RW discs and can also be used in most standard CD players. If you want to create CDs that work in most CD players and save some money as well, you should use CD-R media.

**Q. How many minutes of audio can be stored on a CD-R or CD-RW disc?**

**A.** Typically you can store 74 minutes of uncompressed audio on a single CD. Some types of CD media can store 80 minutes of uncompressed audio, but for greatest compatibility you should use 74-minute media.



**Q. Are there any restrictions to the MP3 encoding or CD burning features of iTunes?**

**A.** iTunes can encode as many MP3 songs as you like, at bit rates up to 320 Kbps. iTunes also takes advantage of both the PowerPC G4 with Velocity Engine and multiple PowerPC G4 processors if they are present. On systems with supported CD-RW drives, you can burn as many custom CDs as you like, and iTunes will work at the fastest burn speed supported by the system.

**Compatibility and Availability**

**Q. Will iTunes run on my Mac?**

**A.** iTunes works with all new systems from Apple introduced in January 2001. iTunes also works with all Apple systems released in August 1998 or later. iTunes requires Mac OS 9.0.4 or later; Mac OS 9.1 is highly recommended.

**Q. Does iTunes work in Mac OS X?**

**A.** The current version of iTunes will not work in Mac OS X. A future version of iTunes will fully support Mac OS X.

**Q. Will iTunes work with my external USB or FireWire CD-RW drive?**

**A.** While iTunes will initially support only Apple systems that include internal CD-RW drives, support for selected external CD-RW drives is under consideration for a future release.

**Q. Are MP3 files for Windows compatible with iTunes on Macintosh?**

**A.** Yes. Since MP3 is a cross-platform encoding standard, the same MP3 files can be played on Macintosh, Windows, and other computing platforms.

**Q. How can I get iTunes?**

**A.** You can download iTunes for free from [www.apple.com/itunes](http://www.apple.com/itunes). iTunes will also soon come preinstalled on new Apple computers.

**Q. How can I tell if my MP3 player is compatible with iTunes?**

**A.** iTunes currently supports MP3 players from Creative Labs and SONICblue/S3. Also compatible with iTunes are several other USB mass storage class MP3 players, such as the Iomega HipZip. When plugged in, these players mount as a hard drive volume on your desktop. Using iTunes, you simply drag your songs or playlists to this volume. For a complete, up-to-date list of MP3 players that iTunes supports, check the iTunes website at [www.apple.com/itunes](http://www.apple.com/itunes).



**Q. What type of technical support does Apple provide for iTunes?**

**A.** For systems that include iTunes, Apple provides 90 days of free limited support for simple setup issues. If you have downloaded iTunes or need additional help, Apple also offers pay-per-incident support plans. For more information about your iTunes support options, visit [www.apple.com/support](http://www.apple.com/support).

**For More Information**

For more information about iTunes, visit  
[www.apple.com/itunes](http://www.apple.com/itunes).

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